

Serial No.: 10/712,729
Reply to Office action of December 29, 2005

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Signature**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

David Charles Pender et al

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Group Art Unit: 1731

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Serial No.: 10/712,729

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Examiner: Q.S. Dehghan

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Filed: November 12, 2003

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Conf. No.: 9280

**TITLED: SYSTEM AND SUPPORT ROD ASSEMBLY FOR SINTERING FIBER
 OPTIC SLEEVE TUBES**

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

(In compliance with 37 CFR § 1.111)

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on December 29, 2005, please consider the following amendments and remarks.

Amendment to the specification begins on page 2 of this reply.

Listing of the Claims begins on page 3 of this reply.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this reply.